

Miller, Robert

From: McMillin, Stella@Wildlife <Stella.McMillin@wildlife.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 3:10 PM
To: agcomm@co.kern.ca.us; Palmer-Townsend, Marilyn@CDPR; Kratville, David@CDFA; Miller, Robert
Subject: Loss report for red fox in Kern County
Attachments: P3224.pdf

Hello all, I have attached a loss report for a red fox in Kern County. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

Thank you.

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**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE BRANCH
WILDLIFE INVESTIGATIONS LABORATORY
PESTICIDE INVESTIGATIONS
1701 NIMBUS ROAD
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**Lab Number P-3224
Necropsy Number Z17-0251
CAHFS Number D1704929**

**Date of loss: April 6, 2017
Sample: Red fox
Vulpes vulpes
Listing status: None**

**To: Glenn Fankhauser
Kern County Agricultural Commissioner**

Report Date: August 22, 2017

Remarks

Anticoagulant rodenticide exposure in red fox.

Background

On April 6, 2017, a red fox was brought into a veterinary clinic bleeding from the head after being hit by a golf club in Bakersfield. She was being fed by the patrons of the golf course because she was in poor physical condition presumably due to mange. She was euthanized at the veterinary clinic and submitted to the CDFW Wildlife Investigations Laboratory (WIL) to determine the cause of her poor health.

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RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

A necropsy was performed on the fox at the WIL. The fox was an adult female. Trauma was evident by the exposed skull cap, depression in the skull, and exposure of thoracic and lumbar vertebrae. In addition, the fox was emaciated and had a severe case of sarcoptic mange. Tissues were submitted to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory in Davis for microscopic examination and toxicology analysis. Severe dermatitis was noted and mites (*Sarcoptes* and possible *Demodex* species) were identified. In addition, liver tissue tested positive for four anticoagulant rodenticides: 0.260 ppm brodifacoum, 0.069 ppm bromadiolone, and traces of chlorophacinone and difethialone.

Brodifacoum, bromadiolone, and difethialone are California restricted materials used for commensal rodent control. Chlorophacinone is used for both field and commensal rodent control. Although anticoagulant rodenticides were present in potentially toxic concentrations, the cause of death of the fox is trauma.

WILDLIFE INVESTIGATIONS LABORATORY

Stella McMillin

**Stella McMillin, Senior Environmental Scientist
Wildlife Investigations Laboratory**

Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "De. Clifford", written over a horizontal line.

**Dr. Deana Clifford, Senior Wildlife Veterinarian,
Wildlife Investigations Laboratory**

**Cc: Marilyn Palmer-Townsend,
CDPR**

**David Kratville,
CDFA**

**Robert Miller,
USEPA**